



## **Monkey Class Monthly Newsletter April 2021**

Dear Parents,

Another month with Monkey class has flown by and we are now approaching the spring season that brings us new life and warmth in the air. We have a busy month ahead; I am working on the drama play and trying to decide what characters are best fit for each child. I am excited for my first drama play and hope that you all will find it entertaining! We still have a field trip day coming up on the 13th (Tuesday) of April! I am so excited for my first field trip with Monkey class. I believe we are going to a farm outside the city and learning about all the animals, as well as getting to see what rustic, country living looks like here in Taiwan. I am sure it differs greatly from American farms so I am excited to learn about this as well. I think the fresh air and getting outside will also be great for everyone, can't wait! As always, I am wishing your families the best and always happy to communicate with you if you have any questions. ☺

### **Reading**

Reading is always a work in progress and I have been constantly trying to change it up for the kids this past month so it doesn't feel like a stagnant, boring routine. Honestly, I will say some days it seems to really work and other days just feel like the kids are not present or have any interest in the book. I think this really depends on how much they like the story of what they are reading, so I am finding ways to make it fun for them. Like I mentioned, many of these books are quite difficult for kids this age, so I am always amazed by their ability to keep up with the majority of the materials in class. Practice obviously makes perfect so we will keep practicing as much as possible!

Week 1: What Can Insects Do?

Week 2: Being Me

Week 3: At Home in a Shell

Week 4: Wind

## Phonics

Phonics class this month has gone really well. I have to say, I am really happy that the kids grasp the understanding of long-A vowels so well. I was very surprised at how quick they understood the difference between the short and long vowel sounds. I tried to repeat words and sentences everyday so it stuck, and I think it really did! Next that comes will be long-O vowel sounds. I think learning these new materials slowly will be better if we want Monkey class to retain these pronunciations well. And we have time to make sure we do it correctly. I am pleasantly surprised about their progress, so many of the kids are really so bright!

Week 1: Long Vowel O- Reading Comprehension (o\_e, oa, ow)

Week 2: Phonetic Long O in Sentences

Week 3: Phonetic Short O (Connecting Sounds to Symbol)

Week 4: Word Building with Long O vowels

## Core Material

We are getting better with the Anthology and Workshop textbooks and catching up slowly. I am trying to review the old material as well so the children don't forget. So far, the kids are doing really great in grasping these short stories and reading the sentences in the books. These books are a good way to indicate your child's progress in school. I say this because they contain many simple words, sentences, and phonetic sounds that recap a majority of what we are learning in each subject throughout the day.

Week 1: Unit 1-5 Workshop (Map It)

Week 2: Unit 1-5 Workshop (Which Way to the Map)

Week 3: Unit 1-5 Workshop (Make It Better)

Week 4: Unit 1-5 Workshop (Plural Nouns)

## Conversation

Monkey class does really well with the "Jump" textbook. Again, because this textbook outlines proper ways to form sentences, especially in speech, this gives them a chance to not only improve their sentence writing practice, but also how to converse in English in a way that flows correctly. I know because in Mandarin, many sentences are spoken in an opposite order compared to English so this gives us a chance to practice speaking. The majority of the class have really no issues with this so I am very happy!

Week 1: Complete Sentences (Yes/No there is/isn't)

Week 2: Puzzle Chest (Colors, Numbers, Animals)

Week 3: Read the Color/ Answer (Yes/No there are/aren't)

Week 4: Asking Questions in Complete Sentences (Are there any...?)

## Songs and Movement

The kids are becoming a lot more manageable during this time period and many of them have found their groove with the songs we play. I know that some of you parents have great taste in

music because of the suggestions I get from the kids. Keep this up, I love teaching them new songs that they enjoy singing and dancing to!

Week 1 This Is the Way We Take a Bath

Week 2: This is the Way We Take a Bath

Week 3: London Bridge

Week 4: London Bridge

## Math

MPM has become one of the smoothest transitions in class simply because all the kids do well in grasping the concepts of MPM, and seem to really be engaged during our lesson. I believe this is due to the fun and stimulating approach that MPM takes, and it's not too difficult for the children. I have level up-ed my method and now take on one table at a time during MPM while the other kids practice writing sentences. That way we can save some time!

Week 1: WB D3 (Quantity Comprehension)

Week 2: WB D3 (More Than or Less Than >/<)

Week 3: WB D3 (Measurements)

Week 4: WB D3 (Matching Shapes and Numbers)

## Thematic Activity

International Culture

Yay! The kids are getting better at using scissors and cutting! I think slowly but surely their motor skills are becoming stronger. Many of them cut out the Easter eggs by themselves during our thematic activity in March and did a wonderful job! We made a fun paper machete for Easter and I think the kids enjoyed this. This month we are focusing on international culture and so every week we will be choosing a different country to discuss and explore!

## Physical Education

Physical education is an important part of our weekly schedule as the children have some time for free movement and to learn more structured ways of exercise. I tried to incorporate dodgeball into our curriculum this past month. However, I do not believe that it was received well as the children did not seem to understand what this game entails. Perhaps dodgeball is a bit advanced for them but I will try it again another time because I believe they would really enjoy it.

Warm Regards,

Jennifer



## **Monkey Class Monthly Newsletter April 2021**

親愛的父母，

又一個月與猴子類已經飛過，我們現在接近春天，給我們帶來了新的生活和溫暖的空氣。我們還有一個繁忙的月份：我正在研究戲劇，並試圖決定哪些角色最適合每個孩子。我為我的第一部戲劇感到興奮，希望你們都會覺得它很有趣！我們有一個戶外教學日即將在 4 月 13 日（星期二）！我為我第一次和猴子班的戶外教學感到興奮。我相信我們要去城外的一個農場，瞭解所有的動物，以及瞭解在臺灣鄉村生活的樣子。我相信它與美國農場有很大的不同，所以我很高興能瞭解這一點。我認為新鮮的空氣和走出去也將是偉大的每個人，不能等待！和往常一樣，我祝願您的家人一切順利，如果您有任何疑問，我很樂意與您溝通。 ☺

### **閱讀**

閱讀一直是一項正在進行的工作，在過去的一個月裡，我一直在努力為孩子們改版，因此不會感到停滯，無聊。老實說，我會說有些日子似乎真的很有效，而其他日子只是覺得孩子們不在場或對這本書沒有興趣。我認為這真的取決於他們是否喜歡閱讀的故事，因此我正在尋找使他們覺得有趣的方法。就像我提到的那樣，這些書中的許多對於這個年齡的孩子來說都是相當困難的，所以我總是為他們能跟上課堂上大多數材料的能力而感到驚訝。實踐很顯然是完美的，所以我們將繼續努力！

第 1 周：昆蟲可以做什麼？

第 2 週：成為我

第 3 週：在家中

第 4 周：風

### **Phonics**

這個月的 Phonics 課非常順利。我不得不說，我真的很高興孩子們能很好地理解長 A 元音的理解。他們對元音短音和長音的區別了解得如此之快，令我感到非常驚訝。我每天嘗試重複單詞和句子，以免卡住，而且我確實做到了！接下來是長 O 元音。我認為，如果我們希望 Monkey 班能很好地保留這些發音，那麼慢慢學習這些新材料會更好。而且我們有時間確保我們正確地進行了操作。我為他們的進步感到驚喜，所以很多孩子真是太聰明了！

第 1 週：長元音 O-閱讀理解 (o\_e, oa, ow)

第 2 週：句子中的語音長音 O

第 3 週：語音短音 O (將聲音連接到符號)

第 4 週：用長 O 元音構詞

## 核心材料

選集和講習班的教科書使我們越來越好，並且進展緩慢。我也正在嘗試查看舊資料，以便孩子們不要忘記。到目前為止，孩子們在掌握這些短篇故事和閱讀書中的句子方面做得非常好。這些書是指示您孩子的學業進展的好方法。我之所以這樣說，是因為它們包含許多簡單的單詞，句子和語音，這些內容概括了我們整天在每個主題中所學的內容。

第 1 週：第 1-5 單元的工作坊（製圖）

第 2 週：第 1-5 單元的工作坊（以哪種方式繪製地圖）

第 3 週：第 1-5 單元的工作坊（使之更好）

第 4 週：第 1-5 單元的工作坊（複數）名詞）

## 會話

猴子課程在“跳躍”教科書中確實表現出色。再次，因為這本教科書概述了正確的句子構成方法，尤其是在語音中，這使他們不僅有機會改善句子的寫作練習，而且還提供了一種以正確的方式進行英語交談的機會。我知道，因為與普通英語相比，普通話說的很多句子的發音順序相反，因此這給了我們練習口語的機會。大部分班級對此確實沒有任何問題，所以我感到非常高興！

第 1 週：完整句子（是/否，沒有/沒有）

第 2 週：拼圖箱（顏色，數字，動物）

第 3 週：閱讀顏色/答案（是/否，沒有/沒有）

第 4 週：用完整句子問問題（有沒有……？）

## 歌曲律動

在此期間，孩子們變得更加易於管理，他們中的許多人已經找到了他們與我們播放的歌曲的凹槽。我知道你們中的一些父母對音樂很有鑒賞性，因為我從孩子們那裡得到了建議。繼續這樣下去，我喜歡教他們新歌，他們喜歡唱歌跳舞！

第 1 週這是我們洗澡的方式

第 2 週：這是我們洗澡的方式

第 3 週：倫敦橋

第 4 週：倫敦橋

## 數學

MPM 已成為課堂上最流暢的過渡之一，這僅僅是因為所有孩子都很好地掌握了 MPM 的概念，並且似乎確實在上課。我相信這是由於 MPM 採取了有趣而刺激的方法，對於孩子們來說並不太困難。我已經提高了自己的方法，現在在 MPM 期間一次接一個桌子，而其他孩子則練習寫句子。這樣我們可以節省一些時間！

第 1 週：WB D3（數量理解）

第 2 週：WB D3（大於或小於）

第 3 週：WB D3（測量）

第 4 週：WB D3（匹配形狀和數字）

## 主題活動

### 國際文化

耶！孩子們在使用剪刀和剪子方面越來越好！我認為緩慢但可以肯定的是，他們的運動技能正在增強。在我們三月份的主題活動中，他們中的許多人自己切出了復活節彩蛋，並且做得很棒！我們為復活節做了一個有趣的紙砍刀，我認為孩子們喜歡這個。本月我們將重點放在國際文化上，因此每週我們

將選擇一個不同的國家進行討論和探索！

### 體育

體育是我們每週計劃的重要組成部分，因為孩子們有一些時間自由活動並學習更有條理的運動方式。在過去的一個月中，我試圖將躲避球納入我們的課程。但是，由於孩子們似乎不了解該遊戲的含義，因此我認為它並不受歡迎。也許躲避球對他們來說有點先進，但我會再嘗試一次，因為我相信他們會很喜歡它。

Warm Regards,  
Jennifer